

CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

WALTER M. DICKIE, M.D., Director

Weekly Bulletin



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GUY P. JONES
EDITOR

PSITTACOSIS, 1934-1935

The problem of the administration and control of aviaries has gradually resolved itself into a routine function of this department. The procedure involves three main factors: registration, release, legband code numbers, and shipment of shell parrakeets.

REGISTRATION

Anyone engaged in selling, trading or bartering shell parrakeets, must obtain a certificate of registration from the State Department of Public Health. Senate Bill No. 516, Chapter 607, 1933, requires an annual fee of \$5 for such a certificate. This fee is payable July 1st of each year in the form of a money order or cashier's check.

According to figures compiled to date there are on record 1721 aviaries representing approximately 65,255 shell parrakeets. The following table gives the distribution by counties:

Counties	No. of aviaries	No. of birds
Alameda	24	1540*
Contra Costa	5	200*
Fresno	5	338
Glenn	1	30
Humboldt	3	21
Kern	8	121
Kings	1	6
Lake	1	10
Los Angeles	1378	45,790*
Marin	4	219
Merced	2	11
Monterey	4	112
Napa	7	66
Orange	68	4,452
Riverside	19	1,903
Sacramento	20	645

Counties	No. of aviaries	No. of birds
San Benito	3	30
San Bernardino	35	2,114
San Diego	38	2,374
San Francisco	4	107*
San Joaquin	6	229*
San Mateo	2	70*
Santa Barbara	9	777
Santa Clara	22	458*
Santa Cruz	5	265*
Solano	2	55
Sonoma	9	168
Stanislaus	7	132
Tulare	7	430
Ventura	25	2,557
Yolo	1	25
	1721	65,255

* Surveyed during 1934-1936.

Some of the counties have been surveyed during this biennium. Such a survey was conducted in Los Angeles County with the assistance of the SERA. A summary of the survey follows:

Summary of Aviary Survey, Los Angeles County, 1934

Private Aviaries	1,145
Less than 100 shell parrakeets	1,127
100 to 500 shell parrakeets	17
501 to 1000 shell parrakeets	1
Over 1000 shell parrakeets	--
Total shell parrakeets in private aviaries in survey	18,442
Commercial Aviaries	233
Less than 100 shell parrakeets	158
100 to 500 shell parrakeets	67
501 to 1000 shell parrakeets	7
Over 1000 shell parrakeets	1
Total shell parrakeets in commercial aviaries covered in survey	27,348
Total aviaries surveyed	1,378
Total shell parrakeets in these aviaries	45,790

As the above figures indicate, the bulk of the industry is concentrated in Los Angeles County with 1378 aviaries out of a total of 1721 located there. Only a small percentage of these aviaries has been tested, released and registered for carrying on the business of buying and selling shell parrakeets. A large proportion of the remainder is maintained for pleasure until such time as the owner wishes to dispose of the surplus stock.

RELEASE

Then, the aviary is subject to the regulations passed by the State Board of Public Health in May, 1935, which provide that at least two laboratory tests be made before an aviary may be certified and the birds released for sale.

The first test consists of mature birds—6 months of age or over and represents 10 per cent of the entire stock, with not less than 10 birds accepted for the test. The second test consists of immature birds—3 to 5 months of age and represents 10 per cent of the entire stock, with not less than 10 birds accepted for the test. An aviary may be subject to repeated tests if in the judgment of the State Department of Public Health there is any suspicion concerning the status of the birds.

The following is a tabulation of the laboratory tests done during the period January 1, 1934, to June 30, 1936:

Laboratory Tests of Aviaries

Year	Total No. of aviaries tested	No. positive	No. negative
1934	193	48	145
1935	79 (new aviaries) 47 (retests*)	3 1*	76 46*
1936	10 (new aviaries) 14 (retests*)	-- --	10 14*

* Retests—Previous tests done in 1934 or 1935. Total aviaries excluding retests 282 with 51 positives. Total birds autopsied 13,219 (1934 to July 1, 1936).

In 1934, 24 per cent of the aviaries tested proved positive; in 1935 the percentage dropped to 3.8 per cent and in the first six months of 1936 all the aviaries tested were negative for psittacosis.

When the stock in an aviary is infected with psittacosis as demonstrated by laboratory examination, the birds may either be quarantined or destroyed. Practically all positive aviaries have been destroyed. This undoubtedly reduces the number of sources of infection and might account for the few positives found in 1935. However, other factors may be involved—i.e. the cessation of indiscriminate exchange of breeding stock among aviary owners with a resulting improvement in breeding stocks; the reduction of the number of nestings (mass breeding), the general sanitary conditions improved and the question of being at the low level of the disease cycle.

If the laboratory tests are negative for psittacosis, then the aviary is released. The following table gives the released aviaries by counties:

Released Aviaries by Counties, July 1, 1936

County	No. of aviaries
Alameda	9
Contra Costa	1
Kings	2
Los Angeles	135
Orange	3
Riverside	2
Sacramento	2
San Bernardino	8
San Diego	1
San Joaquin	1
San Mateo	1
Santa Clara	5
Santa Cruz	2
Stanislaus	1
Tulare	4
Ventura	1
Total	178

LEGBAND CODE NUMBERS

A total of 178 aviaries have been given a release after negative laboratory examinations. These aviaries must band their mature birds with a code number assigned to them by the State Department of Public Health. These code numbers consist of a letter and a number with a star between indicating laboratory release (i.e. A * 70). This identification is used to protect the owner when shell parrakeets are involved in cases of suspected psittacosis.

SHIPPING

The released registered aviaries are permitted to sell intrastate and interstate properly banded mature birds—8 months of age or over. For interstate shipments the United States Public Health Service requires a certificate issued by the State Department of Public Health. This certificate must be sworn to by the shipper before a Notary Public.

A tabulation of interstate shipments is presented by months for this biennium:

Interstate Shipments of Shell Parrakeets

	1934	1935	1936
January	---	1368	1839
February	---	1303	2101
March	---	2436	3030
April	---	2090	2135
May	---	2104	2212
June	---	1347	2098
July	---	1342	---
August	162	2521	---
September	496	3719	---
October	1251	4433	---
November	1507	6077	---
December	1830	7862	---
Totals	5245	36602	13415

During the first six months of 1936 approximately 3,000 more birds were shipped than during the same

period in 1935. This would indicate that control measures have not interfered with the economic phase of a public health problem.

MANY PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES QUALIFY

During 1936, 87 certificates were issued by the State Board of Public Health without examination to nurses who had completed the university course in public health nursing. This was the first year certificates were issued upon this basis.

The examination for public health nursing certificate was given in Los Angeles and San Francisco December 19, 1936. The questions were prepared and papers graded by the Chief Supervising Public Health Nurse.

Applicants accepted for examination.....	115
Total number reporting for examination.....	105
Number reporting for examination in S. F.....	26
Number reporting for examination in L. A.....	79
Total number receiving passing grade.....	93
Number failing.....	12
Total number of points in the examination.....	250
Highest grade.....	218 (86.4%)
Passing grade.....	154 (61.6%)
Lowest grade.....	99
Range of points in passing grades.....	64

Theoretical preparation of nurses taking examination:

No theory.....	68 (2/3 of group)
6 weeks.....	19
2 months.....	1
3 months.....	8
4 months.....	3
9 months.....	4
Undergraduate public health work.....	2

Theoretical preparation of nurses failing examination:

No theory.....	7
6 weeks.....	4
4 months.....	1

Years Experience in Public Health Nursing

	Passing	Failures
2	22	3
3	10	1
4	9	1
5	8	2
6	10	0
7	5	1
8	9	1
9	6	1
10	6	1
11	3	0
12	2	1
13	1	0
14	1	0
15	1	0

Three of the nurses who failed in the 1935 examination failed again in 1936.

What you know and can do differs from what you used to know and do. No man's skill remains the same year after year. You gain and lose. You are probably now better able than formerly to earn your living—provided you can get a job—but, one may guess, less fresh in algebra. From past training and experience you carry along what you review, use, are interested in.

STATE WANTS CULTURES FROM TYPHOID CARRIERS

The State Division of Laboratories desires to call the attention of all approved laboratories to paragraphs 12, 13 and 13a of the regulations of the State Board of Health.

Paragraph 12. All approved laboratories making examinations for the identification of typhoid carriers shall, in all positive cases, forward to the State Division of Laboratories, a culture of the organism, the isolation of which established the diagnosis.

Paragraph 13. Whenever an approved laboratory reports an outbreak of food poisoning as having been caused by a given organism, a culture of the organism on which the opinion was based is to be forwarded to the State Division of Laboratories for deposit in the State Culture Collection; and for confirmation.

Paragraph 13a. Whenever a laboratory reports the diagnosis of coccidioidal granuloma or infection by coccidioides immitis, a subculture shall be sent to the State Division of Laboratories, together with such facts regarding the case as may be known.

It should be noted that Paragraph 12 does not call for *all* cultures but only those responsible for cataloging a new carrier.

MORBIDITY

Complete Reports for Following Diseases for Week Ending February 20, 1937

Chickenpox

1084 cases: Alameda County 3, Alameda 9, Albany 1, Berkeley 21, Oakland 38, San Leandro 6, Chico 1, Contra Costa County 11, Fresno County 22, Fresno 13, Reedley 2, Sanger 1, Humboldt County 2, Eureka 1, Imperial County 1, El Centro 2, Imperial 7, Kern County 19, Kings County 2, Lassen County 1, Los Angeles County 49, Alhambra 1, Arcadia 3, Burbank 2, Claremont 5, Compton 10, Glendale 4, Huntington Park 6, Inglewood 1, La Verne 1, Long Beach 40, Los Angeles 122, Pasadena 11, Pomona 10, Redondo 13, San Fernando 3, San Marino 6, Santa Monica 4, South Pasadena 1, Whittier 6, Lynwood 4, Hawthorne 1, South Gate 7, Signal Hill 1, Maywood 3, Bell 1, Gardena 2, Madera 1, San Rafael 1, Gustine 3, Monterey County 11, Carmel 15, Monterey 2, Salinas 4, Napa County 1, Napa 1, Grass Valley 8, Orange County 16, Anaheim 18, Fullerton 5, Santa Ana 13, Riverside County 6, Corona 24, Riverside 5, Sacramento County 3, Sacramento 68, San Bernardino County 6, Ontario 3, San Bernardino 3, San Diego County 38, Chula Vista 20, National City 3, Oceanside 30, San Diego 74, San Francisco 99, San Joaquin County 9, Lodi 1, Stockton 10, Tracy 1, San Mateo County 3, Daly City 2, San Mateo 2, Santa Barbara County 9, Santa Barbara 5, Santa Clara County 26, Mountain View 1, Palo Alto 1, San Jose 5, Santa Cruz County 5, Watsonville 6, Shasta County 1, Sonoma County 6, Santa Rosa 1, Stanislaus County 2, Modesto 1, Newman 5, Sutter County 1, Tehama County 1, Tulare County 1, Lindsay 4, Ventura County 9, Ventura 1, Marysville 3, California 1.*

Diphtheria

34 cases: Alameda County 3, Hayward 1, San Leandro 1, Imperial County 1, Glendale 1, Los Angeles 13, Pomona 1, Bell 1, Pacific Grove 1, Corona 1, Sacramento 1, San Diego 1, San Francisco 3, Stockton 2, Shasta County 1, Visalia 1, Yolo County 1.

German Measles

34 cases: Berkeley 5, Pittsburg 4, Fresno County 1, Humboldt County 1, Eureka 1, Glendale 1, Long Beach 3, Los Angeles 4, Pasadena 1, Riverside County 1, Riverside 3, San Benito County 1, San Diego County 1, San Diego 2, San Francisco 4, San Jose 1.

* Cases charged to "California" represent patients ill before entering the State or those who contracted their illness traveling about the State throughout the incubation period of the disease. These cases are not chargeable to any one locality.

Influenza

6661 cases: Berkeley 148, Oakland 21, Chico 130, Richmond 4, El Dorado County 1, Placerville 1, Fresno County 481, Clovis 5, Fresno 110, Kingsburg 1, Parlier 1, Glenn County 6, Orland 15, Humboldt County 26, Eureka 33, Westmoreland 1, Kern County 887, Bakersfield 2, Taft 54, Kings County 82, Hanford 12, Los Angeles County 311, Alhambra 28, Arcadia 3, Claremont 4, Compton 5, Culver City 5, El Monte 40, El Segundo 6, Glendale 11, Huntington Park 4, Inglewood 1, Long Beach 8, Los Angeles 161, Monrovia 69, Montebello 3, Pasadena 3, Pomona 13, Redondo 1, San Fernando 4, San Gabriel 4, San Marino 16, Santa Monica 8, Sierra Madre 1, Whittier 5, Lynwood 1, South Gate 4, Monterey Park 7, Maywood 1, Bell 2, Gardena 1, Los Banos 10, Merced 1, Monterey 1, Napa County 1, Napa 5, Grass Valley 3, Orange County 13, Anaheim 33, Brea 8, Fullerton 69, Huntington Beach 4, Orange 28, Santa Ana 31, La Habra 7, Laguna Beach 7, Placentia 9, Riverside County 7, Corona 2, Riverside 3, Sacramento County 33, Sacramento 140, San Benito County 63, Hollister 139, San Bernardino County 19, Ontario 5, Rialto 20, San Bernardino 10, San Diego County 51, La Mesa 2, National City 3, San Diego 3, San Francisco 87, Stockton 1, San Luis Obispo County 40, Arroyo Grande 5, Paso Robles 18, San Luis Obispo 8, San Mateo County 1, Redwood City 1, Santa Barbara County 3, Santa Barbara 1, Santa Clara County 101, Mountain View 38, San Jose 1826, Santa Clara 1, Sunnyvale 1, Santa Cruz County 83, Watsonville 52, Solano County 3, Vacaville 82, Sonoma County 143, Stanislaus County 133, Newman 168, Turlock 25, Tehama County 20, Corning 8, Red Bluff 39, Exeter 1, Lindsey 9, Ventura County 15, Santa Paula 143, Yolo County 122, Woodland 2.

Malaria

2 cases: Riverside County 1, Sutter County 1.

Measles

124 cases: Berkeley 1, Oakland 7, Fresno 1, Eureka 1, Imperial County 2, Los Angeles County 5, Glendale 12, Long Beach 7, Los Angeles 24, Pomona 1, Madera 1, Merced County 1, Los Banos 6, Grass Valley 17, Fullerton 1, Santa Ana 1, Laguna Beach 1, Corona 1, Riverside 1, Sacramento 1, San Bernardino County 1, Ontario 1, San Diego 3, San Francisco 1, Burlingame 1, Lompoc 2, Yuba County 21, Marysville 2.

Mumps

784 cases: Alameda 6, Berkeley 30, Emeryville 1, Oakland 5, Contra Costa County 10, El Cerrito 1, Pinole 1, Pittsburg 12, Richmond 1, Fresno County 30, Fresno 7, Kingsburg 3, Reedley 2, Glenn County 1, Orland 1, Humboldt County 4, Eureka 8, Imperial County 2, El Centro 10, Imperial 4, Kern County 19, Kings County 7, Hanford 5, Los Angeles County 58, Alhambra 2, Beverly Hills 9, Compton 6, Culver City 1, El Segundo 1, Glendale 2, Hermosa 3, Long Beach 5, Los Angeles 48, Monrovia 1, Pasadena 9, Pomona 8, Redondo 3, Santa Monica 3, South Pasadena 2, Whittier 1, Lynwood 2, South Gate 5, Monterey Park 2, Bell 3, Madera County 7, San Anselmo 2, Merced County 3, Gustine 4, Monterey County 1, Monterey 1, Salinas 2, Napa 1, Orange County 11, Anaheim 1, Brea 6, Fullerton 14, Newport 1, Orange 2, Santa Ana 28, Tustin 1, Riverside County 15, Hemet 2, Riverside 35, Sacramento County 2, Sacramento 8, San Bernardino County 4, Ontario 3, Rialto 5, San Bernardino 8, Upland 16, San Diego County 2, Chula Vista 24, Coronado 1, National City 4, Oceanside 2, San Diego 76, San Francisco 98, San Joaquin County 2, Stockton 5, San Mateo County 1, Burlingame 5, Daly City 2, Lompoc 1, Santa Barbara 2, Santa Maria 1, Santa Clara County 3, San Jose 2, Solano County 2, Vallejo 1, Tulare County 4, Exeter 3, Lindsay 6, Ventura County 3, Santa Paula 5, Woodland 2.

Pneumonia (Lobar)

176 cases: Alameda County 1, Oakland 9, Jackson 1, Butte County 1, Contra Costa County 5, Martinez 1, Placerville 1, Fresno County 9, Fresno 4, Humboldt County 3, Eureka 6, Bakersfield 2, Los Angeles County 12, Alhambra 1, Compton 1, El Monte 1, Glendale 2, La Verne 1, Los Angeles 54, Monrovia 1, Pasadena 3, Pomona 1, Redondo 1, Santa Monica 3, Monterey Park 1, Maywood 1, Gardena 1, Madera 1, Salinas 1, Napa 1, Orange County 1, Anaheim 1, Santa Ana 1, Tustin 1, Riverside County 5, Corona 1, Riverside 2, Sacramento County 2, Sacramento 5, San Bernardino County 2, San Diego 1, San Francisco 12, San Luis Obispo County 1, Paso Robles 1, Santa Barbara County 1, Santa Clara County 1, Palo Alto 1, San Jose 3, Stanislaus County 1, Tulare County 1, Lindsay 1, Santa Paula 1.

Scarlet Fever

328 cases: Berkeley 9, Oakland 8, Butte County 4, Chico 13, El Cerrito 3, Martinez 1, Richmond 1, Placerville 1, Fresno County 13, Fresno 4, Sanger 1, Humboldt County 4, Imperial 1, Kern County 5, Bakersfield 2, Susanville 3, Los Angeles County 17, Alhambra 4, Arcadia 1, Beverly Hills 1, Compton 2, Glendale 3, Inglewood 1, Long Beach 4, Los Angeles 35, Pasadena 16, San Gabriel 1, San Marino 2, Whittier 2, South Gate 1, Signal Hill 1, Maywood 1, Madera County 2, Madera 1, Merced County 1, Merced 2, Monterey County 1, Pacific Grove 2, Napa County 4, Napa 3, Orange County 1, Anaheim 3, Fullerton 4, Placer County 3, Auburn 1, Riverside County 4, Corona 1, Riverside 2, Sacramento County 19, Sacramento 5, Hollister 1, San Bernardino County 3, Ontario 1, San Bernardino 1, San Diego County 1, San Diego 2, San Francisco

31, San Joaquin County 8, Stockton 1, Paso Robles 1, Burlingame 2, San Mateo 2, Santa Barbara County 2, Santa Barbara 1, Santa Clara County 4, Palo Alto 2, San Jose 4, Santa Cruz County 3, Watsonville 1, Shasta County 2, Siskiyou County 1, Benicia 1, Vacaville 1, Sonoma County 2, Stanislaus County 3, Ceres 1, Turlock 1, Sutter County 1, Tehama County 1, Red Bluff 1, Tulare County 3, Tulare 1, Ventura County 7, Ventura 2, Yolo County 3, Yuba County 1, Marysville 1.

Smallpox

21 cases: Los Angeles County 2, Burbank 5, Riverside County 2, Corona 2, Riverside 1, San Diego 8, Redding 1.

Typhoid Fever

2 cases: Lakeport 1, Solano County 1.

Whooping Cough

423 cases: Alameda County 3, Alameda 3, Albany 1, Oakland 9, Butte County 1, Fresno County 21, Fresno 17, Selma 2, El Centro 5, Imperial 1, Kern County 6, Hanford 9, Los Angeles County 36, Alhambra 4, Burbank 7, Culver City 3, Glendale 4, Long Beach 3, Los Angeles 65, Pasadena 7, Pomona 1, Redondo 3, San Fernando 4, San Gabriel 1, Santa Monica 6, Madera 5, San Anselmo 1, San Rafael 1, Orange County 15, Anaheim 4, Laguna Beach 3, Riverside County 21, Corona 7, Hemet 7, Sacramento County 5, Sacramento 1, San Bernardino County 3, Colton 1, Redlands 3, Rialto 2, San Bernardino 6, San Diego County 8, Chula Vista 3, San Diego 12, San Francisco 20, San Joaquin County 1, San Luis Obispo County 1, San Mateo County 2, Daly City 4, Santa Barbara County 13, Santa Barbara 3, Santa Maria 2, Redding 2, Stanislaus County 5, Tulare County 15, Exeter 3, Lindsay 7, Ventura County 7, Fillmore 2, Ventura 1, Yolo County 1, Yuba County 4.

Meningitis (Epidemic)

14 cases: Los Angeles County 2, Huntington Park 1, Los Angeles 2, San Fernando 1, Monterey County 1, Napa County 1, Sacramento 1, Colton 1, San Francisco 2, San Joaquin County 1, Watsonville 1.

Dysentery (Amoebic)

One case: Los Angeles County.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

One case: Los Angeles County.

Pellagra

3 cases: Los Angeles 1, San Francisco 1, Santa Rosa 1.

Poliomyelitis

One case: Los Angeles.

Trachoma

2 cases: Madera County 1, Madera 1.

Trichinosis

One case: Sacramento.

Botulism

2 cases: Fresno County.

Jaundice (Epidemic)

2 cases: Stanislaus County.

Food Poisoning

3 cases: San Francisco.

Undulant Fever

4 cases: Los Angeles County 1, Pasadena 1, South Gate 1, Riverside 1.

Coccidioidal Granuloma

One case: Los Angeles County.

Septic Sore Throat (Epidemic)

4 cases: Humboldt County 1, Long Beach 1, Santa Monica 1, San Anselmo 1.

Rabies (Animal)

58 cases: Fresno 1, Imperial County 1, Imperial 1, Los Angeles County 15, Burbank 1, Glendale 1, Inglewood 1, Long Beach 4, Los Angeles 25, Montebello 3, Santa Monica 1, Torrance 1, Hawthorne 1, South Gate 2.